Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) A method for determining the prophylactic suitability and quality control of a composition for use in treating a disorder associated with increased extracellular Fas ligand titers, the method comprising

(a) incubating the composition with a Fas-Fc fusion protein in a solution;

(b) adding to the solution a labelled Fas ligand; and

(c) detecting the amount of Fas ligand bound to the Fas-Fc fusion protein as an indication of the presence of anti-Fas antibodies in the composition, wherein an amount of anti-Fas antibodies in the composition sufficient to inhibit binding of Fas ligand to Fas receptor indicates that the composition is suitable for use in treating a disorder associated with increased extracellular Fas ligand titers.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the composition is an intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) mixture.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the percentage of binding inhibition is at least 40 percent.

24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the amount of bound Fas ligand is determined chemically or physically.

25. (Original) A method for determining the prophylactic suitability and quality control of a composition for use in treating a disorder associated with increased extracellular Fas ligand titers, the method comprising

(a) incubating Fas sensitive cells with the composition in a solution;

(b) adding soluble Fas ligand to the solution; and

(c) determining the percentage of Fas sensitive cells in which apoptosis is inhibited compared to cells not incubated with the composition, wherein a composition that inhibits apoptosis of Fas sensitive cells is suitable for use in treating a disorder associated with increased extracellular Fas ligand titers.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the composition is an intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) mixture.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the percentage of inhibition of Fas sensitive cell apoptosis is at least 40 percent.

28. (Original) A method for determining the prophylactic suitability and quality control of a composition for use in treating a disorder associated with increased extracellular Fas ligand titers, the method comprising

(a) combining Fas receptors with the composition;

(b) adding labelled secondary antibodies that bind specifically to anti-Fas antibodies; and

(c) detecting the labelled secondary antibodies as an indication of the presence of anti-Fas antibodies bound to the Fas receptors, wherein the presence of anti-Fas antibodies in the composition indicates that the composition is suitable for use in treating a disorder associated with increased extracellular Fas ligand titers.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the Fas receptors and the composition are combined in a Western blot technique.

30. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the composition is an intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) mixture.

31. (Original) A method of preparing a drug to treat disorders associated with increased extracellular Fas ligand titers, the method comprising

(a) fractionating a composition;

(b) examining each fraction to determine the presence of anti-Fas antibodies;

(c) isolating each fraction that contains anti-Fas antibodies; and

(d) concentrating the isolated fractions for use as the drug.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the composition is an intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) mixture.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32, further comprising

(e) purifying and isolating the anti-Fas antibodies in the isolated fractions by affinity chromatography.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the affinity chromatography comprises the use of column chromatography using Fas fusion proteins bound to the column.

35. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the affinity chromatography comprises the use of one or more chromatographic columns, each column having linked thereto a specific amino acid sequence of the Fas fusion protein that corresponds to a specific Fas antibody epitope, wherein all Fas antibody epitopes are bound to the one or more columns and are then eluted.

36-38. (Canceled)